





COUNTY BOROUGH OF ST. HELENS



Annual Report  
OF THE  
School Medical Officer,  
FOR  
1929.

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FRANK HAUXWELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health,  
and School Medical Officer.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
ST. HELENS EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as School Medical Officer for the year 1929.

Out of 20,704 children attending the public elementary schools, 11,928 were medically examined during the year either at the routine medical inspections in the schools, or at the various special inspections in the schools or clinics. 8,135 re-inspections were also carried out.

Of the children coming up at the routine inspections 16% were found with defects (other than uncleanliness, defective clothing or footwear, and dental defects) requiring treatment, and 20·5% with defects which required to be kept under observation. The proportion requiring treatment is considerably lower than the average for the whole country, which for 1928 was 20·7% of those examined.

Of all children referred for treatment during the year, it is very satisfactory to be able to report that 93·7% of the medical defects and 66·4% of the dental defects received treatment.

Medical inspection was also carried out in the secondary schools, and of 1,010 children coming up for routine medical inspection, 12·2% were referred for treatment and 21·9% were suffering from defects requiring to be kept under observation.

The most important addition to the School Medical Service during the year was the opening of the Hamblett Open-Air Council School. Though only 56 children were dealt with during the six months the school has been open, the improvement in these children has been very marked and, though it is too early to draw conclusions, I think it can be safely stated that this school will be the means of putting on the road to health many debilitated and ailing children. The school is now being gradually filled up to its full accommodation.

Of further provision still required, I would mention the following as the most urgent :—

(a) The provision of a new School Clinic is one of the most urgent needs of the moment. The number of children attending is increasing annually and the present premises are not only quite inadequate to cope with the numbers attending, but through overcrowding are becoming an actual menace to health.

(b) The want of after-care of the exceptional child is still one of the serious defects in the service in that the special care devoted to these children during their school life is to a very great extent wasted because it is at present nobody's duty to place them to the best advantage in civil life.

(c) A further provision which is required is the provision for the child with seriously defective vision. More should be done than is being done at present if such children are not later in life to swell the numbers of the partially and the total blind.

My special thanks are due to Dr. Fraser, Deputy Medical Officer, for much of the work that has been done, and to Mr. Hartley, Secretary for Education, for his cordial co-operation and assistance.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK HAUXWELL.

May, 1930.

STATISTICAL REVIEW OF WORK OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE  
DURING THE YEAR 1929.

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|                                                                                                        |     |     |       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Children in Average Attendance at Elementary Schools                                                   | ... | ... | 18364 |
| Total Examinations of Elementary School Children                                                       | ... | ... | 20061 |
| Miscellaneous Examinations (Bursars, &c.)                                                              | ... | ... | 99    |
| Children at Elementary Schools having defects which required treatment or to be kept under observation | ... | ... | 8504  |
| Children at Secondary Schools having defects which required treatment or to be kept under observation  | ... | ... | 439   |
| Minor Ailments treated at School Clinics                                                               | ... | ... | 3692  |
| Visual Defects treated                                                                                 | ... | ... | 648   |
| Throat and Nose Defects treated                                                                        | ... | ... | 295   |
| Children inspected by School Dentists                                                                  | ... | ... | 19809 |
| Children treated by School Dentists                                                                    | ... | ... | 6062  |
| Total Attendances at School Clinics                                                                    | ... | ... | 42511 |
| Examinations by Nurses for Cleanliness                                                                 | ... | ... | 53304 |
| Visits to Schools by Medical Officers                                                                  | ... | ... | 285   |
| Visits to Schools by Nurses                                                                            | ... | ... | 5605  |
| Home Visits by Nurses                                                                                  | ... | ... | 12672 |
| Total Attendances at Inspection Clinic                                                                 | ... | ... | 3525  |

## STAFF.

School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health :—

Frank Hauxwell, M.B., Ch.B. (Glasgow), D.P.H. (Camb.).

Deputy School Medical Officer and Deputy Medical Officer of Health :—

D. E. Morley, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
(resigned March, 1929).

J. A. Fraser, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Edinburgh),  
(from April, 1929).

Assistant School Medical Officers and Assistant Medical Officers of Health :—

T. K. Hughes, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Liverp.).  
(resigned May, 1929).

Helen Standring, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Liverp.).

R. W. Eldridge, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., B.Sc.,  
D.P.H., (from August, 1929).

Dental Surgeons :—

A. C. Wilson, L.D.S., (resigned October, 1929).

F. A. Hely, L.D.S., (resigned April, 1929).

A. G. Batten, L.D.S., (from September, 1929).

L. A. Jones, L.D.S., (from December, 1929).

Christine Calder, L.D.S., (resigned October, 1929).

Annie M. Kean, L.D.S., (from November, 1929).

Health Visitors and School Nurses :—

|                      |                    |                     |               |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Ethel Denman,        | (1), (2), (3), (4) | Nora Hogan          | (3), (4)      |
| Mary Riding,         | (3), (4)           | Mary Corrish,       | (3), (4)      |
| Louise M. Austin     | (3), (4)           | Rosanna J. O'Connor | (3), (4)      |
| Winifred Cowan,      | (2), (3), (4)      | Alice Happold,      | (3), (4)      |
| Amy Coates,          | (2), (3), (4)      | Mary Elliott,       | (3), (4)      |
| Emily Corrish        | (2), (3), (4)      | Edith Curran,       | (3), (4)      |
| Daisy C. Cruickshank | (3), (4)           | *Muriel Mountford   | (2), (3), (4) |
|                      |                    | McDonald, E. R.     | (2), (3), (4) |

After Care Sister (Orthopaedic Scheme) :

Olive I. Burton, (4), (5)

School Clinic and Dental Nurses and Attendants :

|                     |     |                |          |
|---------------------|-----|----------------|----------|
| Ethel M. K. Elliot, | (4) | Florence Faber | (3), (4) |
| Grace Sumner        | (4) | F. Wilkinson   | (4)      |
| Muriel Lamb         |     | *Rose Wylie    | (4)      |
|                     |     | E. Howarth     |          |

(\*) Resigned during the year.

(1) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

(2) Health Visitor's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

(3) Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

(4) A trained Nurse.

(5) Certificate of Chartered Society of Masseuses, etc.

The following are part time officers at the School Clinic :—

E. Allan, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), Ophthalmic Surgeon.

J. E. G. McGibbon, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.L.O. (Eng.),  
Ear, Throat and Nose Surgeon.

T. P. McMurray, M.B., M.Ch., B.A.O. (R.U.I.), F.R.C.S.,  
(Edin.), Orthopaedic Surgeon.

J. Unsworth, M.B., B.S. (Lond.).

Physician to the X-Ray Department.

## SCHOOL HYGIENE.

For the most part the conditions in the Council Schools of St. Helens are very good and the cleanliness, ventilation, and general arrangements of these schools are a constant object lesson to the children attending them.

On the other hand, many classrooms in the older provided schools are ill-lighted, badly ventilated, and inadequately or improperly heated. Many of these schools are also overcrowded and have poor sanitary arrangements. Some of the playgrounds too are very rough, and abrasions caused by such a surface frequently become septic and impetiginous.

## MEDICAL INSPECTION.

### Elementary Schools.

During the year 1929 there were under the control of the Education Committee, 39 Elementary Schools with 83 departments. Particulars as to accommodation and attendances are as follows :—

|                                                          |     |     |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------|
| Number of children for whom accommodation available      | ... | ... | 24,756 |
| Average number of children on the roll during the year   | ... | ... | 20,704 |
| Average number of children in attendance during the year | ... | ... | 18,364 |
| Percentage attendance for the year                       | ... | ... | 88·6%  |

Medical inspection has been carried along the lines detailed in previous reports, the scheme allowing of three visits by medical officers to the schools each year and the examination of the three age groups laid down by the Board of Education. At each visit the medical officers also re-examine children previously found defective and any children requiring special examination.

Inspection clinics are also held at the Town Hall two mornings each week for special examinations.

The following statement shows the work done in Medical Inspection during the past five years :

|                      |     |     | 1925 | 1926 | 1927 | 1928 | 1929 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
|                      |     |     | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| Routine Examinations | ... | ... | 5905 | 5984 | 6451 | 6587 | 6016 |
| Special Examinations | ... | ... | 4623 | 4768 | 5242 | 5801 | 5912 |
| Re-examinations      | ... | ... | 8540 | 8834 | 9572 | 9477 | 8135 |
| Examinations at      |     |     |      |      |      |      |      |
| Inspection Clinic    | ... | ... | 4398 | 3742 | 4019 | 3615 | 3525 |

The detailed figures of the number medically inspected during the year are given in Table I.

Apart from the inspections by medical officers, the school nurses do a considerable amount of supplementary inspections. These include inspections regarding cleanliness, inspections preliminary to referring cases to the medical officer, and inspections in connection with infectious diseases. These duties will be referred to later in the review of the work of the school nurses.

## Secondary Schools.

The Secondary Schools to which the provisions of the School Medical Service are applicable are the :—

St. Helens Cowley Boys' Secondary School.

St. Helens Cowley Middle School for Girls.

The general arrangements for the medical inspection of these schools are similar to those for the Elementary Schools. Girls are examined by the female assistant medical officer. Routine medical examination is made once every year of all children attending these schools and special examinations are made from time to time as required.

The following statement shows the work done in the Medical Inspection of these schools during the past five years :

|                      |     |     | 1925            | 1926            | 1927            | 1928            | 1929            |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                      |     |     | <u>        </u> | <u>        </u> | <u>        </u> | <u>        </u> | <u>        </u> |
| Routine Examinations | ... | ... | 608             | 776             | 746             | 710             | 1010            |
| Special Examinations | ... | ... | 123             | 96              | 123             | 152             | 56              |
| Re-examinations      | ... | ... | 106             | 105             | 196             | 155             | 143             |

The detailed figures of the number of children inspected are given in Table VI.

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## FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

### Elementary Schools.

Table II shows the number of defects discovered during routine and special examinations which were referred for treatment or required to be kept under observation,

Of 6,016 children examined at the routine medical inspections, 963 (16%) were found to be suffering from defects (other than uncleanliness, defective clothing or footgear, and dental defects) which required treatment, and 1,237 (20·5%) from defects requiring to be kept under observation. For the previous year the corresponding percentages were 12·6% and 21·2% respectively.

The number and percentage of children in each age and sex group with such defects is shown in the following table :—

|                |     |     | Number<br>examined. | Number referred<br>for treatment<br>or for observation. | Percentage<br>referred. |
|----------------|-----|-----|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| *Entrants—Boys | ... | ... | 1062                | 414                                                     | 38.9                    |
| Girls          | ... | ... | 954                 | 334                                                     | 35.0                    |
| Intermediates— |     |     |                     |                                                         |                         |
| Boys           | ... | ... | 1112                | 419                                                     | 37.6                    |
| Girls          | ... | ... | 1132                | 415                                                     | 36.6                    |
| Leavers—Boys   | ... | ... | 891                 | 286                                                     | 30.9                    |
| Girls          | ... | ... | 865                 | 332                                                     | 38.3                    |
| All Ages—Boys  | ... | ... | 3065                | 1119                                                    | 36.5                    |
| Girls          | ... | ... | 2951                | 1081                                                    | 36.6                    |

\*Vision only tested where reason to suspect defect.

The following table shows the percentage of defects referred for treatment or for observation per 100 children examined during the past five years.

|                            |     | Incidence of defects (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, or footgear and dental diseases) referred for treatment or for observation per 100 children examined. |       |       |       |       |
|----------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                            |     | 1925                                                                                                                                                                     | 1926  | 1927  | 1928  | 1929  |
| Referred for treatment ... | ... | 11.23                                                                                                                                                                    | 10.42 | 8.10  | 13.58 | 15.07 |
| Referred for observation   | ... | 23.67                                                                                                                                                                    | 33.75 | 26.93 | 21.79 | 20.54 |
| Total                      |     | 34.90                                                                                                                                                                    | 44.17 | 35.03 | 35.37 | 35.61 |

From the above table it will be noted that the incidence of defects referred for treatment or for observation has remained more or less stationary for the last five years, with the exception of the increase in 1926. That approximately one third of all children examined are still found to be defective in some degree is, however, a matter for serious concern. The problem is not one for the School Medical Service alone. It affects the Maternity and Child Welfare Service in their endeavours to bring healthy children to school age ; it affects health and housing departments in providing healthy home surroundings ; it involves economic considerations in the reasonable provision for home life ; and last, but not least, it affects education itself in the teaching of parents and children to live healthily.

The chief defects for which children were referred for treatment or for observation during 1929 were :—(The corresponding figures for 1928 are shown in brackets) ; External Eye Diseases, 1·2% (1·0%) ; Defective Vision and Squint, (Intermediates and Leavers only), 18·5% (22·3%) ; Ear Disease or Defect, 1·5% (1·6%) ; Throat and Nose Defects, 13% (7·6%) ; Diseases of Heart and Circulation, 1·6% (1·8%) ; Lung Disease (Non-Tubercular), 2·6% (2·0%) ; Tuberculosis, 0·8% (1·1%) ; Malnutrition, 1·1% (1·3%).

The most noticeable feature of these figures is a large increase in throat and nose defects. To some extent this is a not unexpected sequel of the severe epidemic of scarlet fever in the autumn of 1928 and the spring of 1929. The percentage of other defects remains more or less the same as in the previous year.

Taken as a whole the *Nutrition* of the children was found to be very good. Amongst routine examinations only 27 were considered to be in need of special attention and only 44 were referred for further observation. The numbers of cases requiring to be referred for treatment or for observation owing to *Anaemia* were also small, being only 29 and 34 respectively of those coming up for routine inspections. These are very small numbers and I think can properly be attributed to the excellent arrangements made for the provision of meals,

Though the gradual fall since 1920 in the percentage of children found verminous has not been maintained during the past year, having risen from 4·7% in 1928 to 5·4% in 1929, I think this can be attributed to the higher standard of cleanliness required. In no case during the year was compulsory cleansing necessary, showing that although the percentage found verminous may have increased, the cases are not so serious as formerly.

It is interesting to note that the number of cases in which defective clothing was noted fell from 3·6% in 1928 to 2·6% in 1929, and defective footgear which was noted in 0·3% cases in 1928 fell to 0·1% in 1929.

The incidence of special defects is dealt with later in the report.

*Re-examinations:* The following table gives the number of re-examinations carried out by medical officers during the year, and the results found at these re-examinations as compared with the figures for the previous year.

|                                |        |      | 1928.   | 1929.        |
|--------------------------------|--------|------|---------|--------------|
| Number of Children re-examined | ...    | 5073 |         | 4779         |
| Total re-examinations          | ... .. | 9477 |         | 8135         |
| Number found remedied          | ... .. | 1452 | (15.3%) | 1507 (18.5%) |
| Number found improved          | ... .. | 3949 | (41.6%) | 3713 (45.6%) |
| Number found stationary        | ... .. | 4044 | (42.6%) | 2803 (34.4%) |
| Number found retrograde        | ... .. | 32   | ( 0.3%) | 112 ( 1.3%)  |

### Secondary Schools.

Of 1,010 children coming up for routine medical inspection, 124 (12·2%) were referred for treatment and 222 (21·9%) were suffering from defects, which, though not requiring immediate treatment, required to be kept under observation. The corresponding percentages for 1928 were 8·7 and 21·5.

The chief defects, for which treatment was considered necessary or further observation desirable, were—Defective Vision or Squint, 20·6% ; Throat and Nose Defects, 5·5% ; Diseases of Heart and Circulation, 1·7% ; and Lung Diseases, 0·3%.

In addition to the routine inspections, 56 special cases were examined and 129 children previously found defective were re-examined.

The nature of the defects for which cases were referred for treatment or to be kept under observation is detailed in Table VII.

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## MEDICAL TREATMENT.

### Elementary Schools.

Table IV gives in detail and Table V in summary form the treatment obtained for the various defects referred for treatment during 1929. Table A gives the percentage of the children referred for treatment who have been treated each year since 1919, and Table B shows the number and percentage of cases treated in the four main classes of medical defects during the past 5 years.

TABLE A.

Number of children referred for treatment and number and percentage treated in St. Helens during years 1919 to 1929.

|      |              |     |     |     |     |     | Number of<br>children<br>referred for<br>treatment. | Children treated. |           |      |
|------|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|------|
|      |              |     |     |     |     |     |                                                     | Number            | Per cent. |      |
| 1919 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3355                                                | 2870              | ...       | 85.5 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3090                                                | 1223              | ...       | 39.5 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6445                                                | 4093              | ...       | 63.5 |
| 1920 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6886                                                | 6076              | ...       | 88.2 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4493                                                | 2720              | ...       | 60.5 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11379                                               | 8796              | ...       | 77.3 |
| 1921 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5753                                                | 5310              | ...       | 92.2 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4906                                                | 2034              | ...       | 41.4 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10659                                               | 7344              | ...       | 68.8 |
| 1922 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4454                                                | 3753              | ...       | 84.2 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3518                                                | 2157              | ...       | 61.3 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7972                                                | 5910              | ...       | 74.1 |
| 1923 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3597                                                | 3268              | ...       | 90.8 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4275                                                | 2651              | ...       | 62.0 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7872                                                | 5919              | ...       | 75.1 |
| 1924 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4849                                                | 4417              | ...       | 91.0 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6211                                                | 4528              | ...       | 72.9 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11060                                               | 8945              | ...       | 80.8 |
| 1925 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5301                                                | 4810              | ...       | 90.7 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8025                                                | 6403              | ...       | 79.7 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13326                                               | 11213             | ...       | 84.1 |
| 1926 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5776                                                | 5401              | ...       | 93.5 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9105                                                | 5021              | ...       | 55.1 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14881                                               | 10422             | ...       | 70.0 |
| 1927 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6334                                                | 5991              | ...       | 94.5 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10807                                               | 6768              | ...       | 62.6 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17141                                               | 12759             | ...       | 74.4 |
| 1928 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6829                                                | 6463              | ...       | 94.6 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10493                                               | 7770              | ...       | 74.0 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17322                                               | 14233             | ...       | 82.1 |
| 1929 | Medical only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7074                                                | 6630              | ...       | 93.7 |
|      | Dental       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10561                                               | 7015              | ...       | 66.4 |
|      | Total        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17635                                               | 13645             | ...       | 77.3 |

**TABLE B.**

Showing the number and percentage of cases treated in the various classes of medical defects during years 1925 to 1929.

|                                   | 1925 | 1926 | 1927 | 1928 | 1929 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>Minor Ailments—</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |
| No. referred for treatment ... .. | 2439 | 3030 | 3379 | 3830 | 3864 |
| No. treated ... ..                | 2403 | 2986 | 3349 | 3802 | 3848 |
| % treated ... ..                  | 98.5 | 98.5 | 99.1 | 99.2 | 99.5 |
| <b>Visual Defects—</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |
| No. referred for treatment ... .. | 648  | 597  | 618  | 710  | 748  |
| No. treated ... ..                | 477  | 459  | 551  | 639  | 706  |
| % treated ... ..                  | 73.6 | 76.8 | 89.1 | 90.0 | 93.4 |
| <b>Throat and Nose Defects—</b>   |      |      |      |      |      |
| No. referred for treatment ... .. | 543  | 573  | 627  | 639  | 787  |
| No. treated ... ..                | 387  | 416  | 417  | 402  | 444  |
| % treated ... ..                  | 71.2 | 72.6 | 66.5 | 62.9 | 56.4 |
| <b>Other Medical Defects—</b>     |      |      |      |      |      |
| No. referred for treatment ... .. | 1671 | 1576 | 1710 | 1650 | 1676 |
| No. treated ... ..                | 1543 | 1540 | 1674 | 1620 | 1650 |
| % treated ... ..                  | 92.3 | 97.7 | 97.8 | 98.1 | 98.4 |

During 1929 approximately 90% were treated under the schemes of the Local Authority.

Among children referred for treatment from routine medical inspections during the year, 50% of the defects were treated before the end of the year.

### Secondary Schools.

Of the 141 children referred for treatment for medical defects during the year, 98 (69.5%) were treated before the end of the year and of 391 children referred for dental treatment 245 (62.6%) were treated.

Approximately 36% of the defects treated were treated under the schemes of the Local Authority.

The detailed figures regarding the defects treated are given in Table IX and a summary of the treatment obtained is shown in Table X.

### Provision of Treatment.

The arrangements by the Local Authority for treatment include a central clinic with minor ailment, dental, X-ray and eye departments ; district clinics for minor ailments and for dental treatment ; hospital provision for operations for enlarged tonsils and adenoids and other throat and nose affections ; orthopaedic clinic ; and the use of other health services of the Corporation, e.g. Tuberculosis Dispensary and Sanatorium for tubercular cases and of the Borough Isolation Hospital for the cleansing of verminous children. Obstinate impetiginous conditions and serious external eye diseases are also occasionally admitted to the Peasley Cross Isolation Hospital as necessity arises.

Treatment is available for both elementary and secondary school children on the same terms. Formerly, to recover the cost of treatment at the School Clinic it was the custom to issue accounts to the parents after the completion of treatment, with the intimation that the amount charged could be remitted on application to the Secretary for Education according to a scale of income approved by the Committee. This method proved very cumbersome and entailed immense cost in clerical and other work in collecting small amounts. During the current year, therefore, the procedure has been altered. The system now adopted is to require parents to pay cash at the time of treatment, and the following scale of charges has been fixed by the Committee, with the proviso that treatment is free in necessitous cases.

|                                                                  |     |     |     |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Dental treatment ...                                             | ... | ... | ... | 1/-   |
| Examination of eyes and provision of<br>spectacles, if necessary | ... | ... | ... | 3/-   |
| Operation for tonsils and adenoids                               | ... | ... | ... | 3/-   |
| X-Ray treatment ...                                              | ... | ... | ... | 3/-   |
| Minor ailments ...                                               | ... | ... | ... | Free. |

Though the new scheme has only been in operation a few months, it would appear to be working very successfully. With this procedure it is found that although the charges are smaller than previously, more parents now contribute towards the cost of treatment and there is a correspondingly greater appreciation of the services provided.

Though frequently discussed in Central Children's Care Committee, nothing has yet been done to minimise the overcrowding at the Central Clinic in Cloughton Street. This is rapidly becoming worse. As pointed out in previous reports when this Clinic was opened in 1914 the number of children treated was only 1,717, and the total attendances 7,341 ; in 1929 the number of children attending was 7,761 and the total attendances 29,126. The latter figure shows an increase of 1,797 in the attendances over last year.

The present premises are much too small to deal with this amount of work. Not only is the waiting room accommodation totally inadequate, but all departments are so cramped and congested that it is difficult to carry on the work efficiently. It has to be remembered that apart from use as a school clinic, these premises are also used as a tuberculosis dispensary and venereal disease centre, for which purposes they are also unsatisfactory. To deal with the question satisfactorily, the best remedy would be for the Council and the Education Committee jointly to build entirely new premises which would provide a central school clinic and accommodate a tuberculosis dispensary with an up to date X-Ray and ultra violet ray apparatus, a maternity and child welfare centre and ante-natal clinic, and a venereal diseases centre. The ideal scheme would be to have a building in which all clinical work would be carried out on the ground floor and the clerical and other work of the whole Health Department on one or more floors above. With such a scheme greater co-ordination between the various services could be obtained in that the records and staff of the various services would be easily accessible.

Such a scheme, however, is not intended to dispense with the district clinics. Certain services such as the work under the school medical service of the X-Ray Department, and the work of

the Oculist and the Throat and Nose Surgeon can only be efficiently carried out at a central clinic. Provision is also required at a central clinic for the treatment of minor ailments and dental defects from the town area. On the maternity and child welfare side, a central clinic is required for ante-natal cases and as a maternity and child welfare centre for the town area also. Further, a tuberculosis dispensary and venereal diseases can only be efficiently conducted at a central depot. Finally, for all these services a central dispensary with a clerk dispenser is essential.

At the District Minor Ailment Clinics at Derbyshire Hill, Sutton, and Sutton Manor, 1,562 children made 13,390 attendances during 1929 for treatment by the nurse, and at the temporary sessions for the treatment of dental defects held at Sutton, Sutton Manor, and Thatto Heath, during the year 1,374 children made 1,733 attendances for treatment.

District Clinics for minor ailments in the Thatto Heath District and for dental defects in the Derbyshire Hill district are now urgently required.

The operative treatment of tonsils and adenoids is carried out at one of the local hospitals and the children operated on are retained in hospital till the morning following the operation.

The Throat and Nose Surgeon suggests that "handkerchief drill" should be performed twice daily after assembly in every department. He holds the view that this step would greatly diminish the need for operative treatment of tonsils and adenoids and the incidence of rhinitis and other nasal complaints.

The following table shows the increase in the work of the Eye Department in the last two years.

|                                |     |     |     | 1928 | 1929 |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| Cases for Refraction           | ... | ... | ... | 568  | 647  |
| Cases glassed                  | ... | ... | ... | 454  | 489  |
| Cases not glassed              | ... | ... | ... | 114  | 162  |
| Old cases reviewed             | ... | ... | ... | 134  | 183  |
| Cases referred for observation | ... | ... | ... | 3    | 7    |
| External eye diseases          | ... | ... | ... | 34   | 29   |
| Operations                     | ... | ... | ... | 2    | 1    |
| Total Attendances              | ... | ... | ... | 1113 | 1205 |

The present provision for the treatment of eye defects cannot, however, be considered complete. To carry out the work satisfactorily the oculist should review periodically all cases glassed by him so as to ensure that the glasses continue to be suitable. Further, no special provision is made at present for the teaching of cases of seriously defective vision. At present such cases are reported to the Head Teacher to whom the undermentioned leaflet (which is a copy of that given to the parent) is forwarded asking that the curriculum may be modified in the way indicated on the leaflet. Though the teachers assist on the lines indicated as much as possible, this cannot be considered a satisfactory procedure. Many of these children suffer from the defect "Myopia" which is progressive and, with undue strain during school life, may lead to partial if not total blindness later in life. For this reason special classes should be formed for these children in which the curriculum would be modified to throw as little strain as possible on the eyes.

### Care of Seriously Defective Eyes.

Your child is suffering from a serious defect of vision which is permanent, and is liable to get worse if great care is not taken. Care must therefore be taken in following out the directions given at home as well as in school.

As no special class is at present available in St. Helens, the child should attend an elementary school, where the teacher will be advised as to precautions, and where the child can get as much general knowledge as can be had from those lessons in which no strain is put upon the eyes, together with school discipline and drill.

Near work with books, pens, paper, pencils or slates must be stopped completely, unless special materials are provided. Blackboard work may be allowed. The child must not be allowed to read or write when not at school. All eye work should be done at the greatest possible distance and in a good light. The child's posture when at work should be correct, and no bending or straining should be allowed when seated. No work should be done by artificial light, and the work should be stopped from time to time so that the child may rest the eyes. Girls should do no sewing or fine needlework, but may be taught to knit by feeling without using the eyes.

The child should have as much out-door exercise as possible, but no violent exercise. Drill should be taught, and every form of oral teaching should be carried out.

When glasses have been prescribed the usual instructions for their uses should be observed :—"To be worn constantly. Keep them clean. See that they fit properly—the child should look through the centre of each glass, and not above, below or to the side."

If the frame hurts the child over the bridge of the nose and temples or behind the ears, or if broken, they should be brought to the School Clinic, Cloughton Street, to be repaired.

The following table shows the number of defects treated at the various clinics during the past five years, together with the total attendances :—

|                                 |       |     |     | 1925   | 1926   | 1927   | 1928   | 1929   |
|---------------------------------|-------|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Minor Ailments                  | ...   | ... | ... | 2,279  | 2,853  | 3,206  | 3,633  | 36,78  |
| Visual Defects                  | ..... | ... | ... | 391    | 385    | 474    | 568    | 647    |
| Defects of Throat and Nose      |       | ... | ... | 124    | 165    | 168    | 240    | 295    |
| Dental Defects                  | ...   | ... | ... | 5,172  | 3,957  | 5,631  | 6,877  | 6,062  |
| Crippling Defects               | ...   | ... | ... | —      | —      | 125    | 165    | 203    |
| Other Defects                   | ...   | ... | ... | 1,317  | 1,349  | 1,367  | 1,299  | 1,299  |
| Total Number of Defects treated |       |     |     | 9,283  | 8,709  | 10,971 | 12,782 | 12,184 |
| Total Attendances               |       |     |     | 46,840 | 49,356 | 51,442 | 51,136 | 42,511 |

For the year ended the 31st March, 1930, £232 3s. 10d. has been recovered from parents for treatment provided.

In addition, many weakly and debilitated children have been supplied with Cod Liver Oil Emulsion or Oil and Malt at a small charge, or free according to circumstances.

The question of special provision for the specially defective child is dealt with under the headings dealing with exceptional children.

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## DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

In St. Helens the elementary schools are visited bi-annually and all children from the age of six years upwards are examined at each visit. The total number of children examined in 1929 was 18,925, of whom 10,100 (53·3%) were found to require treatment.

It is interesting to note, however, that of the primary examinations, i.e. new entrants and children not previously examined by the school dentists, the percentage found defective was 71·3%, whereas of children who had been inspected and in many cases treated by the school dentists in previous years, the percentage found defective was only 47·8. As the primary inspections mainly consist of children of the younger age groups, these figures show the importance of extending the dental service into the maternity and child welfare service. At present only the most serious defects found at the maternity and child welfare centres are dealt with and, further, as the proportion of children between the ages of 2 years

and 5 years who attend the maternity and child welfare centres is small, it will be seen that very few children between these ages obtain any dental supervision. With the opening of the nursery schools it is hoped that dental supervision can commence at an earlier age with a consequent prevention of many defects at later ages.

In addition to the primary inspections and the inspections carried out at the first visits to the schools each year, the dentists at their second visits to the schools re-examined 14,994 children and, of these, 9,192 (61·3%) were found to be in need of treatment.

Of the 10,100 found to be in need of treatment, 5,967 (59%) made 7,970 attendances at the School Clinic for treatment and 950 (9·4%) received treatment mainly at the hands of private dentists.

The treatment carried out included 3,595 fillings and 13,146 extractions. The former figure shows an increase over that for the previous year, whilst the latter shows a diminution. This shows that more advantage is being taken of preventive treatment.

The attendances made by children at the District Clinics are ample proof of their value. The number of attendances at the Thatto Heath Centre—the youngest of the district clinics—was 1,033, an increase of approximately 200 as compared with the previous year.

Secondary schools are also visited twice annually. As a result of inspection, 884 children were examined and 333 found to require treatment. 93 (27·9%) obtained treatment at the School Clinic and 109 (32·7%) from private sources.

Detailed figures regarding inspection and treatment carried out by the school dental surgeons are given in Table IV (Group IV) for Elementary Schools and Table IX (Group IV) for Secondary Schools.

## FOLLOWING-UP AND WORK OF SCHOOL NURSES.

As mentioned previously, school nurses do a considerable amount of school inspections supplementary to the inspections by the medical officers. This is one of the most important parts of the school medical service and, as school nurses are in St. Helens also health visitors, the nurse is able to follow the child from the maternity and child welfare scheme into and through the school medical service. By so doing, she is in possession of information of great use to the medical officer inspecting not only in regard to the previous history of the individual child but also in regard to its family history and home circumstances. In addition to assisting medical officers at the inspections and carrying out on her own behalf verminous inspections at schools, the school nurse visits each school weekly to consult with teachers regarding absentees and to advise teachers regarding the health of any children whom the teacher desires her to see. Further, during epidemic periods, the nurse visits the schools daily to make a rapid survey of the particular class or classes affected and in this way is frequently of the greatest use in discovering cases in the early stages or "missed" cases.

Though it is impossible to give a full statistical report on the work carried out by them, the following figures give some idea of their work during the year :

1. Number of visits to schools for general supervisory purposes and for medical and verminous inspections 5,132
2. Number of children examined for uncleanliness..... 53,304
- 3.—Number of visits paid to the homes of children in following up defects, investigating cases of infectious disease, investigating cases referred by the School Attendance Department, etc. .... 10,129

In addition to the school nurses proper, special nurses are employed at the School Clinic and District Clinics who are wholly engaged treating or assisting in the treatment of various defects.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of the principal infectious diseases occurring amongst school children is shown in the following table which also gives the corresponding figures since 1925 :—

|                |     |     |     | 1925  | 1926  | 1927  | 1928  | 1929  |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                |     |     |     | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Scarlet Fever  | ... | ... | ... | 158   | 72    | 123   | 794   | 286   |
| Diphtheria     | ... | ... | ... | 54    | 47    | 58    | 81    | 69    |
| Measles        | ... | ... | ... | 821   | 643   | 1112  | 679   | 799   |
| Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | 291   | 104   | 175   | 249   | 317   |
| Chicken Pox    | ... | ... | ... | 417   | 380   | 194   | 387   | 295   |
| Mumps          | ... | ... | ... | 59    | 629   | 541   | 17    | 29    |
| German Measles | ... | ... | ... | 132   | 3     | 2     | 84    | 21    |

A severe epidemic of scarlet fever which commenced in September, 1928, persisted during the first two months of 1929 and thereafter declined to the usual intermittent cases. Fortunately the disease was mild in type.

The first five months in 1929 were also noted for an epidemic prevalence of measles and, owing to the long incubation period, the percentage of attendances suffered, particularly in infants' departments.

Whooping cough and chicken pox, the other two diseases which lead to a considerable loss of attendances were also prevalent throughout the year, the former particularly in the last quarter of the year and the latter in the first quarter of the year.

During the year no schools were closed because of infectious diseases, but in 24 departments for an aggregate of 72 weeks the percentage attendance fell below 60%.

The minimum periods of exclusion for patients and contacts are shown on the accompanying Table.

# EXCLUSION OF CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES OR COMING FROM AN INFECTED HOUSE. (Revised April, 1925).

| DISEASE               | Incuba-<br>tion<br>Period | Exclusion of Patient                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                             | Exclusion of other children in the house. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                       |                           | Period of Exclusion                                                                                                                                                  | Children involved                                                                                                           | Children involved                         | Period of exclusion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| DIPHTHERIA ... ..     | 2—10<br>days              | Until two successive negative swabs have been obtained from nose and throat and not less than fourteen days after discharge from hospital or release from isolation. | Exclude—all children                                                                                                        | Exclude—all children                      | Until negative swabs have been obtained from the nose and throat and not less than fourteen days from date of disinfection of premises after removal of patient to hospital, or in the case of patients treated at home ten days after disinfection of premises. |
| SCARLET FEVER ... ..  | 1—8<br>days               | Until not less than fourteen days after discharge from hospital or release from isolation. Isolate one month at least and until child is free from all discharges.   | Exclude—all children                                                                                                        | Exclude—all children                      | Until not less than seven days after disinfection of premises.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| MEASLES ... ..        | 7—14<br>days              | Three weeks from date of appearance of rash ... ..                                                                                                                   | Exclude (1) <i>All</i> children attending an infant Dept. (2) <i>all other</i> children who have not had the disease ... .. | Exclude—as in Measles                     | Three weeks from date of onset of last case in house.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| GERMAN MEASLES ... .. | 5—21<br>days              | One week from date of appearance of rash ... ..                                                                                                                      | Exclude—all children attending Infant Dept. only.                                                                           | Exclude—as in Measles                     | Three weeks from date of contact with patient with rash.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| WHOOPING COUGH ... .. | 6—18<br>days              | Until six weeks from commencement of cough ... ..                                                                                                                    | Exclude none...                                                                                                             | Exclude none...                           | Six weeks from date of last case in house.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| MUMPS ... ..          | 12—23<br>days             | Until one week after subsidence of swelling ... ..                                                                                                                   | Exclude—as in Measles                                                                                                       | Exclude—as in Measles                     | —                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| CHICKEN POX ... ..    | 11—21<br>days             | Until all scabs have fallen off and not less than three weeks from commencement of illness...                                                                        | Exclude—Unvaccinated children only. ...                                                                                     | Exclude—Unvaccinated children only. ...   | Three weeks from date of last exposure to infection.                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| SMALL POX ... ..      | 10—14<br>days usually 12  | Until all scabs and “seeds” have disappeared and not less than six weeks from commencement of illness ... ..                                                         | Exclude—Unvaccinated children only. ...                                                                                     | Exclude—Unvaccinated children only. ...   | Sixteen days from date of last exposure to infection.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

TUBERCULOSIS.

At the end of 1929, there were in St. Helens 207 children of school age suffering from the following forms of Tuberculosis :

|                   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                 |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Pulmonary         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 80              |
| Non-Pulmonary :—  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                 |
| Bones and Joints  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43              |
| Peripheral Glands | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 56              |
| Abdominal         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18              |
| Skin              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14              |
| Others            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4               |
|                   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | <hr/> 215 <hr/> |

103 children were referred during the year by school medical inspectors for further observation for suspected phthisis.

School Medical Inspection provides a valuable means of detecting tuberculosis in its earliest stages. Children who are physically below standard or who live in close contact with known cases of tuberculosis, are specially observed by the School Medical Officer and referred to the Tuberculosis Officer when necessary. In this way children come under treatment when there is a reasonable chance of permanent cure. In this way, too, parents come in personal contact with medical officers who teach them, as far as possible, the true nature of the disease and, since prevention is better than cure, how best to prevent it.

It is deplorable, however, how many children are subjected to unnecessary risk of infection in their own homes from parents or relatives suffering from the disease. Faulty home conditions from poverty and overcrowding are factors in the spread of the disease and may or may not be preventable, but, so long as consumptives refuse to believe that they are suffering from the disease and consider precaution unnecessary, and so long as consumptives who know they are infective refuse to take even the simplest precautions, children will continue to be infected and add to the avoidable ill health of the community.

The treatment provided for these children is by private practitioners, tuberculosis dispensary, school clinic, orthopaedic clinic, sanatoria or hospitals. During the year 263 children made 971 attendances at the Tuberculosis Dispensary for examination, observation or treatment ; 25 children made 413 attendances for X-ray treatment of tubercular glands or lupus ; 40 children suffering from tubercular bones or joints made 101 attendances to see the orthopaedic surgeon and 240 attendances for intermediate treatment at the orthopaedic clinic ; 9 children with surgical tuberculosis were maintained at Leasowe Hospital for 1,794 days ; and 53 children spent an aggregate of 7,338 days in Eccleston Hall Sanatorium.

As the majority of the cases in hospitals and sanatoria remain there for prolonged periods, provision is made for education as well as for treatment.

At the Eccleston Hall Sanatorium out of 53 children of school age who have been in the Sanatorium during the year, 48 attended the class for various periods. The average daily attendance was 16, and the average number of days each child attended, 153.

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## EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN.

### Crippled Children.

For crippling defects the combined Orthopaedic Scheme for the Tuberculosis, Maternity and Child Welfare, and School Medical Services has proved most successful. Though there is still a considerable number of old-standing cripples on the books, it is noticeable that cases are attending the Clinic at earlier stages of the defects than formerly, with a consequent increase in the permanent cures and a lessening of the crippling in later years. As a whole the parents are eager to take advantage of the scheme, though one still meets the parents who refuse to allow the child to remain in hospital for the long period some times necessary to effect a permanent cure.

During 1929, 203 non-tubercular cripples of school age were dealt with under the School Medical side of the scheme. These were as follows :—

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Infantile Paralysis ... ..      | 39    |
| Other Forms of Paralysis ... .. | 26    |
| Congenital Deformities ... ..   | 28    |
| Rickets ... ..                  | 48    |
| Traumatism ... ..               | 13    |
| Miscellaneous ... ..            | 49    |
|                                 | <hr/> |
|                                 | 203   |
|                                 | <hr/> |

The treatment provided involved 375 attendances for consultation or treatment by the orthopaedic surgeon, 1,303 attendances for intermediate treatments by the nurse, and 533 home visits by the nurse for purposes of supervision or for making arrangements for admission to hospital. In addition, 22 cases received surgical or other hospital treatment for an aggregate of 1,195 days.

During the year 25 children were discharged from the clinic as cured, 2 were transferred to the Tuberculosis side and 29 ceased to attend the clinic, leaving 145 children still under treatment at the end of the year.

In addition to the above non-tubercular cases, there were also treated at or in connection with the Orthopaedic Clinic 40 children of school age in whom the crippling was due to tuberculosis. These cases are referred to in that section of the report dealing with tuberculosis.

The supply and repair of all splints and appliances is undertaken by the St. Helens Cripple and Invalid Children's Aid Society, who also give invaluable assistance in the supply of extra nourishment and clothing when required. They also provide, by means of a small part-time voluntary school, educational facilities for those cripples who are unable to attend an ordinary school,

At the end of 1929, there were in St. Helens 231 children of school age suffering from various degrees of crippling deformities due to the following causes :—

|                        |     |     |       |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Surgical Tuberculosis  | ... | ... | 44    |
| Infantile Paralysis    | ... | ... | 44    |
| Rickets                | ... | ... | 59    |
| Congenital Deformities | ... | ... | 32    |
| Traumatism             | ... | ... | 17    |
| Miscellaneous          | ... | ... | 35    |
|                        |     |     | <hr/> |
|                        |     |     | 231   |
|                        |     |     | <hr/> |

### **Delicate and Pre-Tubercular Children.**

Since the opening of the Open-Air School in June much good work has been accomplished though it is too early yet to see the complete benefits that can be obtained.

The school opened with 56 children and this number is being gradually increased up to the school accommodation of 120 places. All cases are carefully selected by the School Medical Officer, the type of children admitted being the malnourished, anaemic or debilitated school child with or without accompanying defects. Each child admitted has a complete medical examination every four months and is examined during the intervals as and when required. Dental inspection and treatment is also provided. A trained nurse is in daily attendance at the school, and in addition to the dressing of minor ailments and general supervision of the health of the children, records the weights of the children weekly and the height measurements monthly and supervises the bathing.

The class rooms and dining room are equipped with folding shutters glazed with Vita Glass so that in suitable weather three sides of the classrooms may be opened, whilst the shutters may be drawn for protection against the high winds and rain when necessary. In suitable weather the lessons are taken in the open field adjoining the class rooms. The curriculum includes more handwork and

craftwork than is usual in ordinary schools, as it has been found that the varied interest so produced is less likely to tire these children.

The school day is from 8-15 a.m. to 5-0 p.m., the children being picked up at various points in the town by buses and returned to these points in the evening. After arrival at the School they are provided with breakfast consisting of porridge and milk, or ground rice and stewed fruit, or bread and milk and fresh fruit, with bread, butter, marmalade and cocoa. The school work begins at 9-20 and continues until 11-40 a.m. In the winter months, there is a break in the forenoon session for a cup of hot cocoa or milk. Dinner is at 12-30 p.m. and consists of a hot meal of meat or fish, two vegetables and pudding. For half an hour before dinner and for one hour after, each child is made to rest on a specially constructed stretcher bed, and during this period absolute silence is demanded so that the maximum benefit may be obtained. In the afternoon school work is resumed at 2-30 p.m. and finishes at 4-30 when tea, consisting of bread and butter with jam, or lettuce or other fresh "green stuff," or fruit, or cheese, is served.

Subject to the orders of the medical officer, each child receives three shower baths per week, the tonic qualities of which have been found most beneficial.

For four weeks during the summer the children were given the option of sleeping at the school from the Monday to the Friday, only returning home for the week end. Approximately two-thirds of those in attendance took advantage of this "summer camp" which for them formed an excellent and healthy holiday.

The remedies provided by this school are thus abundant fresh air, sunshine, good food and regular meals, exercise, rest, and baths. The benefit obtained is a marked improvement in the health of the child. Not only do they gain in weight, but there is a distinct improvement in the child's appearance generally, together with a very noticeable gain in spirits and, with better health, a growth in mental alertness. During the first six months the average weekly gain in weight was 4 ozs. in girls and 3.3 ozs. in boys,

and the average gain in height  $\cdot 9$  ins. in girls and 1 in. in boys. It says much for the healthiness of the life led by these children that the percentage attendance, even during these first few months, has been 90·8%. The percentage attendance at the Elementary Schools for the year was 88·6%.

No children were discharged from the school during the year, the short period the school was open being considered insufficient to give lasting benefit to the children admitted. Three children were, however, withdrawn by their parents for various reasons.

### **Blind, Deaf and Epileptic Children.**

The total number of these children in the area is given in Table III. During the year, 1 blind, 1 epileptic, and 2 deaf and dumb children were sent to special residential schools and the Local Authority is at present maintaining 2 epileptic, 14 blind, and 10 deaf and dumb children in these special schools.

### **Mentally Defective Children.**

There are no special schools or classes for the mentally deficient in St. Helens, and, out of the 88 feeble-minded (but educable) children in the borough, only 9 are at present maintained at special residential schools. All the remaining 79 who should be receiving special education are attending ordinary classes in the Public Elementary Schools.

Only one uneducable child (an idiot) was notified to the Local Control Authority during the year.

After notification, responsibility for these children rests with that Authority, which for this area is the Lancashire Asylums Board.

### After Care.

There is still no scheme in St. Helens for the after care of the exceptional child. As pointed out in my reports for the preceding two years, this is a very serious defect in the School Medical Service. Though these children may constitute a small proportion of the total school population, there are approximately 700 such children in St. Helens—700 children handicapped physically or mentally to such an extent that they are unable, on leaving school, to compete equally in the labour market with the normal child. Some form of after care should be provided for these children when they leave school. Some require special technical or vocational training before they can be usefully employed, whilst others only require help and guidance in choosing an occupation suitable to their disability and some supervision for the first few years after leaving school. Without such further training or supervision, the care bestowed upon them during school life is wasted.

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### PHYSICAL TRAINING.

No direct control over physical training is exercised by the School Medical Officer, but Head Teachers refer for examination any children who appear to them to be unfit to take part in the games and exercises practised in the various schools. Many schools are severely handicapped by the fact that they have no central hall in which physical training can be carried on during inclement weather. There is no class for remedial exercises and there is no organiser of physical training.

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## BATHS.

The Windle Pilkington Council School is the only school equipped with baths. These consist of slipper and spray baths, and are in constant use, all the girls, practically all the boys and a large proportion of the infants receiving a bath weekly.

The Education Committee also have the use of the small plunge bath at the Public Baths in Boundary Road for ten half days per week for swimming and the boys from schools in the vicinity attend a six months' course at these baths under the direction of a swimming instructor. At the end of each course an examination is held, and the boys who obtain a certificate of proficiency also receive a free pass to the baths for a period of twelve months.

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## PROVISION OF MEALS.

Breakfasts and dinners are provided seven days a week at the centres at the Windle Pilkington, Arthur Street, Merton Bank, and Robins Lane, and on five days a week at the centres at Sutton Manor, Parr Flat, Allanson Street, Gerards Bridge, Thatto Heath, Parr, and Sutton. Dinners only are provided at the centre at the Higher Grade School. The meals are prepared and served at the centres by paid attendants.

The total number of meals served during the year was increased by more than 25%, being 533,488, as compared with 425,204 during the previous year. Of these 523,511 were provided free.

The total number of individual children receiving free meals was 1,425, and the number who paid for meals was 77,

The average total cost per meal was 2·4 pence, of which 1·65 pence was for food.

Apart from the provision of meals by the Local Authority, arrangements have been made by the Head Teachers of many departments for the supply during the forenoon session of a glass of malted or dried milk. This has been very popular with the children, and teachers are enthusiastic regarding the beneficial results obtained. A small charge is made for the milk and the schemes are all self-supporting.

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## CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

Though parents in all cases are invited to attend the routine inspections the attendance is never high.

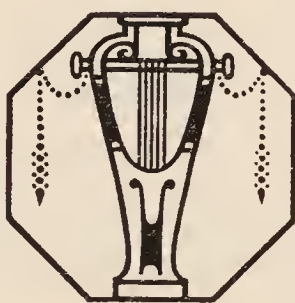
I would again express my indebtedness to the Teachers for their co-operation and interest in School Medical Work.

Close co-operation is also maintained with the School Attendance Department who referred 334 cases to the School Medical Officer for special investigation during the year.

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## CO-OPERATION WITH VOLUNTARY BODIES.

A large amount of assistance has been given by the various voluntary organisations in the town and close co-operation exists between these bodies and the School Medical Service. The National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, in dealing with cases of neglect ; The St. Helens Invalid and Crippled Children's Aid Society, in dealing with cripples ; The St. Helens and District Society for the Welfare of the Blind, in dealing with blind children ; The St. Helens Fresh Air Fund, in sending children to convalescent homes ; The St. Helens Police Clothing Fund for Destitute Children, in grants of clothing or clogs ; and The St. Helens Juvenile Organisation Committee, in organising evening play centres ; have all rendered valuable assistance in maintaining and improving the health of the school child.



STATISTICAL TABLES  
FOR THE YEAR 1929.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS—Tables I to V.

TABLE I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

|                                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Number of Code Group Inspections    |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
| Entrants                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2016 |
| Intermediate                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2244 |
| Leavers                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1756 |
| Total                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6016 |
| Number of other Routine Inspections |     |     | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil  |

B—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

|                               |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Number of Special Inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5912  |
| Number of Re-Inspections      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8135  |
| Total                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14047 |

TABLE II.

A—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1929.

| DEFECT OR DISEASE                                            |                           |                                            |     | Routine Inspections |                                                                     | Special Inspections |                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                              |                           |                                            |     | No. of Defects      |                                                                     | No. of Defects.     |                                                                    |
|                                                              |                           |                                            |     | Requiring Treatment | Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment. | Requiring Treatment | Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment |
| (1)                                                          |                           |                                            |     | (2)                 | (3)                                                                 | (4)                 | (5)                                                                |
| Malnutrition                                                 | ...                       | ...                                        | ... | 27                  | 44                                                                  | 222                 | 132                                                                |
| Uncleanliness :—                                             | (See Table IV., Group V.) |                                            |     |                     |                                                                     |                     |                                                                    |
| SKIN                                                         | {                         | Ringworm—Scalp                             | ... | 1                   | —                                                                   | 9                   | —                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Body                                       | ... | —                   | 1                                                                   | 15                  | —                                                                  |
|                                                              | {                         | Scabies                                    | ... | 2                   | —                                                                   | 34                  | —                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Impetigo                                   | ... | 33                  | 16                                                                  | 1375                | 2                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)           | ... | 16                  | 7                                                                   | 208                 | 17                                                                 |
| EYE                                                          | {                         | Blepharitis                                | ... | 38                  | 19                                                                  | 71                  | 30                                                                 |
|                                                              |                           | Conjunctivitis                             | ... | 6                   | 3                                                                   | 64                  | 1                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Keratitis                                  | ... | —                   | 1                                                                   | 3                   | 1                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Corneal Opacities                          | ... | 1                   | —                                                                   | 13                  | 7                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Defective Vision (excluding Squint)        | ... | 277                 | 342                                                                 | 318                 | 988                                                                |
| EAR                                                          | {                         | Squint                                     | ... | 67                  | 56                                                                  | 85                  | 181                                                                |
|                                                              |                           | Other Conditions                           | ... | 5                   | 3                                                                   | 411                 | 5                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Defective Hearing                          | ... | 11                  | 11                                                                  | 42                  | 23                                                                 |
|                                                              |                           | Otitis Media                               | ... | 47                  | 13                                                                  | 325                 | 66                                                                 |
|                                                              |                           | Other Ear Diseases                         | ... | 11                  | 1                                                                   | 27                  | 1                                                                  |
| NOSE AND THROAT                                              | {                         | Enlarged Tonsils only                      | ... | 117                 | 254                                                                 | 151                 | 153                                                                |
|                                                              |                           | Adenoids only                              | ... | 16                  | 25                                                                  | 60                  | 60                                                                 |
|                                                              |                           | Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids              | ... | 129                 | 182                                                                 | 174                 | 183                                                                |
|                                                              |                           | Other Conditions                           | ... | 23                  | 40                                                                  | 117                 | 59                                                                 |
|                                                              |                           | ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (Non-Tuberculous) | ... | 18                  | 57                                                                  | 32                  | 43                                                                 |
| DEFECTIVE SPEECH                                             | ...                       | ...                                        | ... | —                   | 14                                                                  | —                   | 17                                                                 |
| TEETH—Dental Diseases (Inspections by Medical Officers only) | ...                       | ...                                        | ... | 567                 | 119                                                                 | 194                 | 80                                                                 |
| HEART AND CIRCULATION                                        | {                         | Heart Disease —Organic                     | ... | 2                   | 11                                                                  | 10                  | 14                                                                 |
|                                                              |                           | Functional                                 | ... | 2                   | 20                                                                  | 5                   | 26                                                                 |
|                                                              |                           | Anæmia                                     | ... | 29                  | 34                                                                  | 104                 | 127                                                                |
| LUNGS                                                        | {                         | Bronchitis                                 | ... | 37                  | 108                                                                 | 98                  | 106                                                                |
|                                                              |                           | Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases             | ... | 2                   | 11                                                                  | 222                 | 23                                                                 |
|                                                              |                           | Pulmonary—Definite                         | ... | 4                   | 1                                                                   | 82                  | 6                                                                  |
| TUBERCULOSIS                                                 | {                         | Suspected                                  | ... | 16                  | 7                                                                   | 18                  | 27                                                                 |
|                                                              |                           | Non-Pulmonary—Glands                       | ... | 7                   | 4                                                                   | 64                  | 26                                                                 |
|                                                              |                           | Spine                                      | ... | —                   | —                                                                   | 10                  | 1                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Hip                                        | ... | 1                   | 1                                                                   | 6                   | 2                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Other Bones and Joints                     | ... | 3                   | —                                                                   | 7                   | 1                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Skin                                       | ... | 3                   | —                                                                   | 12                  | 3                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Other Forms                                | ... | 2                   | 3                                                                   | 10                  | 14                                                                 |
| NERVOUS SYSTEM                                               | {                         | Epilepsy                                   | ... | 1                   | 3                                                                   | 5                   | 9                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Chorea                                     | ... | —                   | 3                                                                   | 17                  | 4                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Other Conditions                           | ... | —                   | 1                                                                   | 27                  | 1                                                                  |
| DEFORMITIES                                                  | {                         | Rickets                                    | ... | 6                   | 6                                                                   | 27                  | 9                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Spinal Curvature                           | ... | 1                   | 1                                                                   | 1                   | —                                                                  |
|                                                              |                           | Other Forms                                | ... | 9                   | 24                                                                  | 46                  | 22                                                                 |
| OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES                                   | ...                       | ...                                        | ... | 20                  | 28                                                                  | 361                 | 61                                                                 |

B.—Number of *individual children* found at *Routine Medical Inspection* to Require Treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

| GROUP<br><br>(1)                 | Number of Children   |                                             | Percentage<br>of Children<br>found to<br>require<br>Treatment<br><br>(4) |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                  | Inspected<br><br>(2) | Found to<br>require<br>Treatment<br><br>(3) |                                                                          |
| CODE GROUPS—                     |                      |                                             |                                                                          |
| Entrants ... ..                  | 2016                 | 331                                         | 16.41%                                                                   |
| Intermediates ... ..             | 2244                 | 406                                         | 18.09%                                                                   |
| Leavers ... ..                   | 1756                 | 227                                         | 12.92%                                                                   |
| Total (Code Groups) ... ..       | 6016                 | 964                                         | 16.02%                                                                   |
| Other Routine Inspections ... .. | —                    | —                                           | —                                                                        |

TABLE III.

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

|                                                       |                                                                                       |                                                                    | BOYS | GIRLS | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|-------|
| BLIND<br>(including partially blind).                 | (i) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.                 | Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind ...           | 7    | 7     | 14    |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..                         | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | At other Institutions ...                                          | 1    | —     | 1     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | At no School or Institution...                                     | —    | 1     | 1     |
|                                                       | (ii) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind.              | Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind ...           | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..                         | 11   | 16    | 27    |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | At other Institutions ...                                          | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | At no School or Institution ...                                    | —    | —     | —     |
| DEAF<br>(including deaf and dumb and partially deaf). | (i) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb. | Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf ...            | 5    | 5     | 10    |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..                         | —    | 1     | 1     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | At other Institutions ...                                          | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | At no School or Institution...                                     | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       | (ii) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.               | Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf ...            | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..                         | 2    | 1     | 3     |
| MENTALLY DEFECTIVE                                    | Feeble-minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority).                  | Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ... .. | 6    | 3     | 9     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..                         | 39   | 40    | 79    |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | At other Institutions ...                                          | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | At no School or Institution...                                     | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       | Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year.                              | Feeble-minded ... ..                                               | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | Imbeciles ... ..                                                   | —    | —     | —     |
| EPILEPTICS                                            | Suffering from severe epilepsy.                                                       | Idiots... ..                                                       | —    | 1     | 1     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | Attending Certified Special Schools for Epileptics ...             | 1    | 1     | 2     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools...            | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..                         | 1    | 5     | 6     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | At no School or Institution...                                     | —    | —     | —     |
|                                                       | Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe.                                          | Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..                         | 5    | 1     | 6     |
|                                                       |                                                                                       | At no School or Institution...                                     | —    | —     | —     |

TABLE III.—(continued).

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                    | Boys | Girls | TOTAL |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|-------|
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                    |      |       |       |
| PHYSICALLY<br>DEFECTIVE | Infectious pul-<br>monary and<br>glandular tu-<br>berculosis.                                                                                                                                              | At Sanatoria or Sanatorium<br>Schools approved by the<br>Ministry of Health or the<br>Board ... .. | 1    | —     | 1     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At other Institutions ...                                                                          | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At no School or Institution...                                                                     | 1    | 2     | 3     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                    |      |       |       |
|                         | Non-infectious<br>but active pul-<br>monary and<br>glandular tu-<br>berculosis.                                                                                                                            | At Sanatoria or Sanatorium<br>Schools approved by the<br>Ministry of Health or the<br>Board ... .. | 9    | 9     | 18    |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At Certified Residential<br>Open Air Schools ... ..                                                | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At Certified Day Open Air<br>Schools ... ..                                                        | —    | 2     | 2     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At Public Elementary Schools                                                                       | 9    | 10    | 19    |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At other Institutions ...                                                                          | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At no School or Institution...                                                                     | 1    | 2     | 3     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                    |      |       |       |
|                         | Delicate children<br>(e.g., pre- or<br>latent tuberculo-<br>sis, malnutrition<br>debility, anæmia,<br>etc.)                                                                                                | At Certified Residential<br>Open Air Schools ... ..                                                | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At Certified Day Open Air<br>Schools ... ..                                                        | 24   | 28    | 52    |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At Public Elementary Schools                                                                       | 98   | 127   | 225   |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At other Institutions ...                                                                          | —    | 1     | 1     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At no School or Institution...                                                                     | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                    |      |       |       |
|                         | Active non-pul-<br>monary tuber-<br>culosis.                                                                                                                                                               | At Sanatoria or Hospital<br>Schools approved by the<br>Ministry of Health or the<br>Board ... ..   | 6    | 3     | 9     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At Public Elementary Schools                                                                       | 19   | 21    | 40    |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At other Institutions ...                                                                          | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At no School or Institution...                                                                     | 1    | —     | 1     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                    |      |       |       |
|                         | Crippled Child-<br>ren (other than<br>those with active<br>tuberculous dis-<br>ease) e.g., child-<br>ren suffering<br>from paralysis,<br>etc., and includ-<br>ing those with<br>severe heart dis-<br>ease. | At Certified Hospital Schools                                                                      | 2    | —     | 2     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At Certified Residential<br>Crippled Schools ... ..                                                | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At Certified Day Cripple<br>Schools ... ..                                                         | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At Public Elementary Schools                                                                       | 93   | 90    | 183   |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At other Institutions ...                                                                          | 5    | 4     | 9     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | At no School or Institution...                                                                     | —    | 1     | 1     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                    |      |       |       |

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1929.

TREATMENT TABLE.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V).

| DISEASE OR DEFECT                                                                           | Number of Defects referred for Treatment | Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year. |           |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------|
|                                                                                             |                                          | Under the Authority's Scheme                                   | Otherwise | Total |
| SKIN—Ringworm, Scalp ... ..                                                                 | 10                                       | 6                                                              | 4         | 10    |
| Ringworm, Body ... ..                                                                       | 15                                       | 15                                                             | —         | 15    |
| Scabies ... ..                                                                              | 36                                       | 36                                                             | —         | 36    |
| Impetigo ... ..                                                                             | 1408                                     | 1375                                                           | 30        | 1405  |
| Other Skin Disease ... ..                                                                   | 224                                      | 212                                                            | 8         | 220   |
| MINOR EYE DEFECTS—<br>(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II). ... .. | 612                                      | 565                                                            | 43        | 608   |
| MINOR EAR DEFECTS ... ..                                                                    | 463                                      | 376                                                            | 65        | 441   |
| MISCELLANEOUS—<br>(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ... ..           | 1096                                     | 1093                                                           | 3         | 1096  |
| Total ... ..                                                                                | 3864                                     | 3678                                                           | 153       | 3831  |

**Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint** (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

| DEFECT OR DISEASE                                                                | Number of Defects referred for Treatment | No. OF DEFECTS DEALT WITH.    |                                                                                                    |           |       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------|
|                                                                                  |                                          | Under the Authority's Scheme. | Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. | Otherwise | Total |
| Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ... ..                                   | 747                                      | 621                           | 45                                                                                                 | 39        | 705   |
| Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) ... .. | —                                        | —                             | —                                                                                                  | —         | —     |
| Total ... ..                                                                     | 747                                      | 621                           | 45                                                                                                 | 39        | 705   |

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed—

|                                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 464 |
| (b) Otherwise                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 45  |

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles—

|                                  |     |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | 464 |
| (b) Otherwise                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | 44  |

**Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.**

| Number referred<br>for Treatment | Number of Defects.                                              |                                                                                         |       |                                         |                            |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                                  | Received Operative Treatment                                    |                                                                                         |       | Received<br>other forms<br>of Treatment | Total<br>number<br>treated |
|                                  | Under the<br>Authority's<br>Scheme, in<br>Clinic or<br>Hospital | By Private<br>Practitioner<br>or Hospital<br>apart from<br>the<br>Authority's<br>Scheme | Total |                                         |                            |
| 787                              | 293                                                             | 64                                                                                      | 357   | 87                                      | 444                        |

**Group IV.—Dental Defects.**

|                                                                                      |   |         |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| (1) Number of Children who were :—                                                   |   |         |   | (2) Half-days devoted to :—                                        |  |                                                            |  |
| (a) Inspected by the Dentist :                                                       |   |         |   | Inspection ... 167                                                 |  |                                                            |  |
| Aged :                                                                               |   |         |   | Treatment ... 970 } Total 1137                                     |  |                                                            |  |
| Routine<br>Age<br>Groups                                                             | { | 5—1300  | } | Total 17853                                                        |  | (3) Attendances made by children<br>for treatment ... 7970 |  |
|                                                                                      |   | 6—2148  |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   | 7—2405  |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   | 8—2435  |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   | 9—2514  |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   | 10—1762 |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   | 11—1550 |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   | 12—1692 |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
| Specials                                                                             | { | 13—1650 | } | (4) Fillings :—                                                    |  | Permanent teeth ... 2652 } Total 3595                      |  |
|                                                                                      |   | 14—395  |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   | 15—4    |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   | 1072    |   |                                                                    |  |                                                            |  |
| Grand Total ... 18925                                                                |   |         |   | (5) Extractions :—                                                 |  |                                                            |  |
| (b) Found to require treatment 10100                                                 |   |         |   | Permanent teeth ... 1542                                           |  |                                                            |  |
| (c) Actually treated ... 5967                                                        |   |         |   | Temporary teeth ... 11604 } Total 13146                            |  |                                                            |  |
| (d) Re-treated during the year as<br>the result of periodical<br>examination ... 471 |   |         |   | (6) Administrations of general<br>anæsthetics for extractions 1668 |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   |         |   | (7) Other Operations :—                                            |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   |         |   | Permanent teeth ... 176                                            |  |                                                            |  |
|                                                                                      |   |         |   | Temporary teeth ... 780 } Total 956                                |  |                                                            |  |

*Note :—*In addition to these inspections, 14994 children were re-inspected during the year, and of them, 9192 were found to require treatment.

**Group V.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.**

|        |                                                                                      |       |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| (i.)   | Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses...     | 58    |
| (ii.)  | Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses             | 52353 |
| (iii.) | Number of individual children found unclean                                          | 2861  |
| (iv.)  | Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority | Nil   |
| (v.)   | Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :                              |       |
|        | (a) Under the Education Act, 1921                                                    | Nil   |
|        | (b) Under School Attendance Byelaws                                                  | Nil   |

**TABLE V.**

**Summary of Treatment of Defects.**

| DISEASE OR DEFECT          | NUMBER OF DEFECTS      |                                          |           |       |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------|-------|
|                            | Referred for Treatment | TREATED                                  |           | Total |
|                            |                        | Under local Education Authority's Scheme | Otherwise |       |
| Minor Ailments             | 3864                   | 3678                                     | 153       | 3831  |
| Visual Defects             | 747                    | 621                                      | 84        | 705   |
| Defects of Throat and Nose | 787                    | 293                                      | 151       | 444   |
| Dental Defects             | 9800                   | 5667                                     | 950       | 6617  |
|                            | 761                    | 300                                      | 98        | 398   |
| Other Defects              | 1676                   | 1500                                     | 150       | 1650  |
| Total                      | 17635                  | 12059                                    | 1586      | 13645 |

SECONDARY SCHOOLS—Tables VI to X.

TABLE VI.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

|                        |    |   |     |       |     |    |             |
|------------------------|----|---|-----|-------|-----|----|-------------|
| Number of Inspections— |    |   |     |       |     |    |             |
| Age                    | 3  | — | —   |       | Age | 12 | — 129       |
|                        | 4  | — | 1   |       |     | 13 | — 127       |
|                        | 5  | — | 19  |       |     | 14 | — 133       |
|                        | 6  | — | 39  |       |     | 15 | — 97        |
|                        | 7  | — | 37  |       |     | 16 | — 69        |
|                        | 8  | — | 60  |       |     | 17 | — 51        |
|                        | 9  | — | 57  |       |     | 18 | — 13        |
|                        | 10 | — | 60  |       |     | 19 | — 2         |
|                        | 11 | — | 116 |       |     |    |             |
|                        |    |   |     | Total | ... |    | <u>1010</u> |

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

|                               |     |     |     |       |     |     |            |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|------------|
| Number of Special Inspections | ... | ... | ... | ...   | ... | ... | 56         |
| Number of Re-inspections      | ... | ... | ... | ...   | ... | ... | <u>143</u> |
|                               |     |     |     | Total | ... |     | <u>199</u> |

TABLE VII.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1929.

| DEFECT OR DISEASE                          |   |                                        |  |  | Routine Inspections |                                                                     | Special Inspections |                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                            |   |                                        |  |  | No. of Defects      |                                                                     | No. of Defects.     |                                                                     |
|                                            |   |                                        |  |  | Requiring Treatment | Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment. | Requiring Treatment | Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment. |
| (1)                                        |   |                                        |  |  | (2)                 | (3)                                                                 | (4)                 | (5)                                                                 |
| Malnutrition ... ..                        |   |                                        |  |  | —                   | 2                                                                   | —                   | 1                                                                   |
| Uncleanliness—                             |   |                                        |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
| (See Table IV., Group V.)                  |   |                                        |  |  |                     |                                                                     |                     |                                                                     |
| SKIN                                       | { | Ringworm—Scalp ... ..                  |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Body ... ..                            |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Scabies ... ..                         |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Impetigo ... ..                        |  |  | 1                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)       |  |  | 2                   | 3                                                                   | 1                   | —                                                                   |
| EYE                                        | { | Blepharitis ... ..                     |  |  | 2                   | 3                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Conjunctivitis ... ..                  |  |  | 1                   | 1                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Keratitis ... ..                       |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Corneal Opacities ... ..               |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Defective Vision (excluding Squint)... |  |  | 55                  | 103                                                                 | 8                   | 21                                                                  |
| EAR                                        | { | Squint ... ..                          |  |  | 2                   | 4                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Other Conditions ... ..                |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Defective Hearing ... ..               |  |  | 1                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Otitis Media ... ..                    |  |  | 1                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Other Ear Diseases ... ..              |  |  | 1                   | 1                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
| NOSE AND THROAT                            | { | Enlarged Tonsils only... ..            |  |  | 17                  | 30                                                                  | 1                   | 4                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Adenoids only ... ..                   |  |  | —                   | 2                                                                   | 1                   | 1                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids          |  |  | —                   | 5                                                                   | 2                   | 2                                                                   |
| ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (Non-Tuberculous) | { | Other Conditions ... ..                |  |  | 1                   | 1                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | lous ... ..                            |  |  | 4                   | 33                                                                  | 1                   | 4                                                                   |
| DEFECTIVE SPEECH ... ..                    |   |                                        |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
| TEETH                                      |   |                                        |  |  | 55                  | 4                                                                   | 3                   | 1                                                                   |
| (Inspections by Medical Officers only).    |   |                                        |  |  |                     |                                                                     |                     |                                                                     |
| HEART & CIRCULATION.                       | { | Heart Disease—Organic ... ..           |  |  | —                   | 6                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Functional ... ..                      |  |  | —                   | 8                                                                   | —                   | 1                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Anæmia... ..                           |  |  | 3                   | 1                                                                   | 1                   | 1                                                                   |
| LUNGS                                      | { | Bronchitis ... ..                      |  |  | 2                   | 1                                                                   | —                   | 1                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Other Non. T.B. Diseases ... ..        |  |  | 1                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Pulmonary—Definite ... ..              |  |  | 1                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
| TUBERCULOSIS                               | { | Suspected ... ..                       |  |  | 1                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Non-Pulm.—Glands ... ..                |  |  | —                   | 2                                                                   | —                   | 1                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Spine ... ..                           |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Hip ... ..                             |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Other Bones & Joints ... ..            |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Skin ... ..                            |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Other Forms ... ..                     |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
| NERVOUS SYSTEM                             | { | Epilepsy ... ..                        |  |  | —                   | 1                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Chorea ... ..                          |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Other Conditions ... ..                |  |  | —                   | 1                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
| DEFORMITIES                                | { | Rickets ... ..                         |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | Spinal Curvature ... ..                |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
| OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES...              | { | Other Forms ... ..                     |  |  | —                   | —                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |
|                                            |   | ... ..                                 |  |  | 3                   | 4                                                                   | —                   | —                                                                   |

B.—Number of *individual children* found at *Routine Medical Inspection* to Require Treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

| GROUP                            | Number of Children |                            | Percentage of Children found to require Treatment |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
|                                  | Inspected          | Found to require Treatment |                                                   |
| Total (all ages) ... ..          | 1010               | 124                        | 12.27%                                            |
| Other Routine Inspections ... .. | Nil                | Nil                        | Nil                                               |

TABLE VIII.

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                               | Boys | Girls | Total |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|-------|
| PHYSICALLY<br>DEFECTIVE | Delicate children<br>(e.g., pre- or<br>latent tuberculo-<br>sis, malnutrition<br>debility, anæmia<br>etc.)                                                                                                | At Certified Residential ...                                                                  |      |       |       |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Open Air Schools ...                                                                          | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At Certified Day Open Air<br>Schools ...                                                      | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At Secondary Schools ...                                                                      | 2    | 3     | 5     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At other Institutions ...                                                                     | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At no School or Institution...                                                                | —    | —     | —     |
|                         | Active non-pul-<br>monary tuber-<br>culosis.                                                                                                                                                              | At Sanatoria or Hospital<br>Schools approved by the<br>Ministry of Health or the<br>Board ... | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At Secondary Schools ...                                                                      | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At other Institutions ...                                                                     | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At no School or Institution...                                                                | —    | —     | —     |
|                         | Crippled Child-<br>ren (other than<br>those with active<br>tuberculous dis-<br>ease) e.g., child-<br>ren suffering<br>from paralysis,<br>etc., and includ-<br>ing those with<br>severe heartdis-<br>ease. | At Certified Hospital Schools                                                                 | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At Certified Residential<br>Cripple Schools ...                                               | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At Certified Day Cripple<br>Schools ...                                                       | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At Secondary Schools ...                                                                      | 2    | 1     | 3     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At other Institutions ...                                                                     | —    | —     | —     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | At no School or Institution...                                                                | —    | —     | —     |

TABLE IX.

Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1929.

TREATMENT TABLE.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V).

| DISEASE OR DEFECT<br>(1)                                                                    | Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year. |                                     |                  |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
|                                                                                             | Number of Defects referred for Treatment<br>(2)                | Under the Authority's Scheme<br>(3) | Otherwise<br>(4) | Total<br>(5) |
| SKIN—Ringworm, Scalp ... ..                                                                 | —                                                              | —                                   | —                | —            |
| "      Body ... ..                                                                          | —                                                              | —                                   | —                | —            |
| Scabies ... ..                                                                              | —                                                              | —                                   | —                | —            |
| Impetigo ... ..                                                                             | 1                                                              | —                                   | 1                | 1            |
| Other Skin Disease ... ..                                                                   | —                                                              | —                                   | —                | —            |
| MINOR EYE DEFECTS—<br>(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.) ... .. | 3                                                              | —                                   | 3                | 3            |
| MINOR EAR DEFECTS ... ..                                                                    | 3                                                              | —                                   | 3                | 3            |
| MISCELLANEOUS—<br>(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ... ..           | —                                                              | —                                   | —                | —            |
| Total ... ..                                                                                | 7                                                              | —                                   | 7                | 7            |

**Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint** (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

| DEFECT OR DISEASE<br><br>(1)                                                                                                | Number of Defects referred for Treatment<br><br>(2) | No. OF DEFECTS DEALT WITH.               |                                                                                                               |                      |                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
|                                                                                                                             |                                                     | Under the Authority's Scheme.<br><br>(3) | Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.<br><br>(4) | Otherwise<br><br>(5) | Total<br><br>(6) |
| Errors of Refraction (including Squint) (Operations for squint should be recorded separately in the body of the Report) ... | 105                                                 | 26                                       | 34                                                                                                            | 14                   | 74               |
| Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ... ..                                           | —                                                   | —                                        | —                                                                                                             | —                    | —                |
| Total ...                                                                                                                   | 105                                                 | 26                                       | 34                                                                                                            | 14                   | 74               |

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :

|                                                                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25 |
| (b) Otherwise                                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8  |
| Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles : |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25 |
| (b) Otherwise                                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8  |

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

| Number referred for Treatment | NUMBER OF DEFECTS.                                   |                                                                         |       |                                   |                       |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
|                               | Received Operative Treatment.                        |                                                                         |       |                                   | Total number treated. |
|                               | Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. | By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. | Total | Received other forms of Treatment |                       |
| 22                            | 2                                                    | 1                                                                       | 3     | 6                                 | 9                     |

Group IV.—Dental Defects.

|                                                                   |  |                             |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|
| (1) Number of children who were :—                                |  | (2) Half-days devoted to :— |  |
| (a) Inspected by the Dentist :                                    |  | Treatment ... .. 9          |  |
| Aged :                                                            |  | Inspection ... .. 9         |  |
|                                                                   |  | Total 18                    |  |
| (3) Attendances made by Children for treatment ...                |  | 112                         |  |
| (4) Fillings :—                                                   |  |                             |  |
| Permanent Teeth ...89                                             |  |                             |  |
| Temporary Teeth 11                                                |  | Total 100                   |  |
| (5) Extractions :—                                                |  |                             |  |
| Permanent Teeth ...87                                             |  |                             |  |
| Temporary Teeth ...43                                             |  | Total 130                   |  |
| (6) Administrations of General anæsthetics for extractions ... .. |  | 38                          |  |
| (7) Other Operations :—                                           |  |                             |  |
| Permanent Teeth ...35                                             |  |                             |  |
| Temporary teeth ... 3                                             |  | Total 38                    |  |

|                                                                        |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| (1) Number of children who were :—                                     |                 |
| (a) Inspected by the Dentist :                                         |                 |
| Aged :                                                                 |                 |
| Routine Age Groups                                                     | 5 — 4 14 — 138  |
|                                                                        | 6 — 30 15 — 112 |
|                                                                        | 7 — 24 16 — 75  |
|                                                                        | 8 — 30 17 — 28  |
|                                                                        | 9 — 46 18 — 14  |
|                                                                        | 10 — 51 19 — 1  |
|                                                                        | 11 — 64         |
|                                                                        | 12 — 131        |
|                                                                        | 13 — 136        |
|                                                                        | Total 884       |
| Specials ... ..                                                        |                 |
| Grand Total ... ..                                                     |                 |
| 884                                                                    |                 |
| (b) Found to require treatment ...                                     |                 |
| 333                                                                    |                 |
| (c) Actually treated ... ..                                            |                 |
| 93                                                                     |                 |
| (d) Re-treated during the year as the result of periodical examination |                 |
| Nil                                                                    |                 |

**Group V.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.**

|                                                                                                   |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses ... ..         | 39  |
| (ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses ... ..             | 951 |
| (iii.) Number of individual children found unclean... ..                                          | Nil |
| (iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority ... .. | Nil |
| (v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :                                      |     |
| (a) Under the Education Act, 1921... ..                                                           | Nil |
| (b) Under School Attendance Byelaws ... ..                                                        | Nil |

**TABLE X.**

**Summary of Treatment of Defects.**

| DISEASE OR DEFECT                       | NUMBER OF DEFECTS      |                                          |            |            |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
|                                         | Referred for Treatment | TREATED                                  |            | Total      |
|                                         |                        | Under local Education Authority's Scheme | Otherwise  |            |
| Minor Ailments ... ..                   | 7                      | —                                        | 7          | 7          |
| Visual Defects ... ..                   | 105                    | 26                                       | 48         | 74         |
| Defects of Throat and Nose ... ..       | 22                     | 2                                        | 5          | 7          |
| Dental } Referred by Dentist ... ..     | 333                    | 93                                       | 109        | 202        |
| Defects } Referred by School M.O.... .. | 58                     | 2                                        | 41         | 43         |
| Other Defects ... ..                    | 17                     | 2                                        | 8          | 10         |
| <b>Total ... ..</b>                     | <b>542</b>             | <b>125</b>                               | <b>218</b> | <b>343</b> |